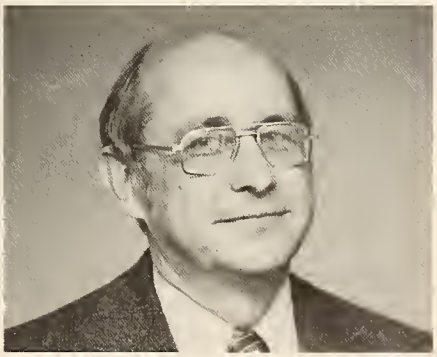
Columbia Seminary Vantage

ALUMNI COUNCIL HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Inaugurating a new era in relations between the Seminary and its Alumni, more than 30 members of the recently established Alumni Council met at Columbia on March 29 to set their agenda, establish task forces and offer counsel as to how Columbia can better serve its graduates. Representation came from across the whole Church — from Maryland to Florida, from Oklahoma to South Carolina — truly a significant response.

Under the leadership of President William Adams of Atlanta, Vice-President Robert Lawrence of Greenville, S. C., and Secretary-Treasurer McCoy Franklin of Auburn, Ala., President J. Davison Philips and members of the Columbia administration provided the Alumni with an up-to-date view of the Seminary. The Council then voted the following recommendations: urging the faculty to combine the Smyth and Alumni lectures into a week-long comprehensive format including various facets of interest; a determination that Alumni Giving next year be allocated to student scholarships; that a Board of Visitors be created to help in the advocacy of Seminary programs and support; and a recommendation to the Board of Directors to encourage faculty to publish in their fields of academic competence.

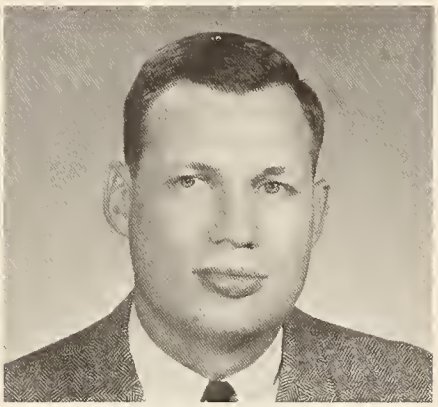


Vice-President Bob Lawrence

Along with these recommendations the Council established for itself several areas of responsibility including the creation of a communications system between itself and members of the Board of Directors, the fund-raising effort among Alumni, and the recruitment of the best men and women possible as candidates for the ministry and encouragement of them to consider Columbia Seminary for their theological education.

Officers and Members of the Council are:

(See Alumni Council, Page 4, Column 1)



Secretary-Treasurer McCoy Franklin

Alumni President Bill Adams

ENDOWMENT UP HALF-MILLION

Through gifts from individuals, foundations and wills, Columbia has, since July 1, 1975, received in excess of $500,000 for its endowment fund. The total endowment of the Seminary now stands at approximately $5.2 million.

Alumni giving now has exceeded last year's total of $14,000 and will certainly establish a new high before the fiscal year is over at the end of June. Current giving through the Living Endowment program has surpassed the $45,000 mark.

Further financial reports indicate that the special effort generated by the Board of Directors to secure $75,000 in gifts beyond the normal revenue sources has already been successful. All gifts and pledges to both the endowment and current funds as a result of work by Board

(See Endowment, Page 4, Column 3)

COLUMBIA FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE TO AID SCHOLARSHIP FUND

As this issue of *Vantage* goes to press plans are being made to welcome more than 200 women who are part of the Columbia Friendship Circle to the campus for CFC's "Come-See-Columbia Day" on April 22.

The day will feature Dr. J. Davison Philips, President, who will preach at the opening worship service, a report on CFC's efforts to help underwrite the cost of Columbia's Supervised Ministry Program, action upon the recommendation to adopt Scholarship Aid Assistance as the coming year's project and the election of new officers.

Careful advance preparations have been carried out by Mrs. Frances Cox, Climax, Ga., President; Mrs. Harriet Moore, Mobile, Al., Vice-President and Mrs. Ruth Esche, Secretary-Historian from Marietta, Ga.

Columbia spends its million dollar budget in many ways, but more than $120,000 of it is spent in student aid. Seminary education is an expensive operation; it costs approximately $5,000 a year per student, but Columbia's students pay only $2,190 a year tuition, board, room and fees. Yet, one out of every four students receives aid to meet even the costs we charge. Without this aid many Columbia students simply would not be able to attain a Seminary education.

FROM the PRESIDENT

The past 4 months have been a time of listening, learning, adjusting, and planning. Columbia has many opportunities and our expectations are high both here and throughout the Church.

Recently the Association of Theological Schools conducted an extensive study of what American Christians expect from their ministers. Preliminary reports indicate that character and integrity rate higher than skills. Spiritual authenticity ranked above the capacity to administer programs, although a minister is expected to do both.

It would be easy to find flaws in this study. The emphasis on "what is expected" may not consider "what is needed." However, this is a most important issue for those of us who care about Columbia and the mission we share of preparing people for ministry. How can we best prepare people to serve Our Lord, the Church and the world in this latter part of the 20th century? What will they need in the way of competence and character to be effective ministers for Him?

Your prayers and your thoughtful participation in this common venture are urgently needed.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Services, Presbyteries and Synods.

May God bless and use you through His Church in these demanding days.

Faithfully yours,

J. Davison Philips

J. Davison Philips

J. Erskine Love, Jr.
Chairman of Columbia's Board of Directors, will direct the Spring meeting of the Board April 19-20 held on the campus.

KLINE APPRECIATION DAY HELD AT COLUMBIA

Amid a spirit of joyfulness and thanksgiving, more than 200 students, faculty, alumni, members of the Board of Directors and friends gathered in the Tull Refectory on Thursday, March 25, to offer appreciation to Dr. C. Benton Kline, Jr., former President of Columbia Seminary, for his years of service as President.

Presentations were made by representatives of the students, faculty, alumni and Board, all paying tribute to Ben as a friend, as one who was more than faithful to his duties, and their appreciation of him as a teacher. Several gifts were given, including a book of bound letters of appreciation, financial assistance for his proposed trip to Scotland, a chain saw for use at his summer home and a cassette tape of the luncheon proceedings.

It is interesting to note that with the presence of Dr. Richards and Dr. Philips at the luncheon, three of Columbia Seminary's six presidents were present.

"If a man has ability, achievement is a joy. But to take the hard knocks and come up smiling, to have your mainsail blown away and then rig a sheet on the bowsprit and sail on, this is perhaps the deepest test of character."

—Harry Emerson Fosdick

COLUMBIA PREPARES FOR VISITORS

Fifty men and women are now registered for the Conference on the Ministry to be held at Columbia at the end of April. This conference is for those who, some years following their college graduation, have decided to explore the ministry as a vocation. To assist them in the complex process of determining whether or not God has called them to change vocations Columbia offers a weekend on the campus to meet with faculty and students, discuss in depth the nature and meaning of a call, to examine some of the dimensions of ministry today and allow an opportunity for them to ask the practical questions involved. As in the past, a highly stimulating weekend is expected.

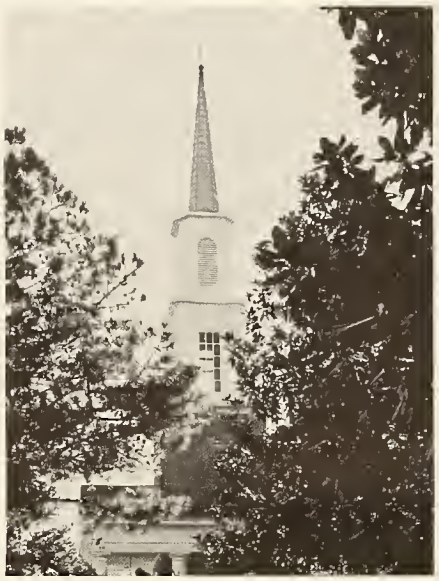
'75 Ministry Conferees meet with Prof. Wade Huie

WITH OUR ALUMNI

Dr. Robert I. Doom, CTS '55, recently installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, St. Genevieve, Missouri, has published a book entitled *Faith That Matters* and presented a copy to the Seminary library.

The Rev. James D. Newsome, Jr., CTS '55, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Paducah, Kentucky, has published a paper "Toward A New Understanding of the Chronicler and His Purposes" in the June, 1975, issue of the *Journal of Biblical Literature*. He is spending this academic year on leave from his parish studying at Oxford. Mr. Newsome is serving on the Alumni Council, also.

COMMENCEMENT, BACCALAUREATE SCHEDULED



Columbia Church, site of Commencement Exercises.

Approximately forty men and women of Columbia will complete their Seminary sojourn and receive their degrees at Commencement exercises on Sunday, June 6, at the Columbia Presbyterian Church, adjacent to the campus. Dr. George T. Brown, Staff Director of the International Mission Division of the GEB, will offer the address at the 4 p.m. exercises.

Baccalaureate services will be held at the Decatur Presbyterian Church at 11 o'clock the same Sunday morning with Dr. J. Phillips Noble preaching the sermon. Dr. Noble, a member of the Board of Directors of Columbia, was chairman of the Search Committee which nominated Dr. Philips for the Presidency of Columbia.

STUDENTS READY FOR SUMMER MINISTRIES

Summer '76 approaches, but for first year students the most important fact is not the Bi-Centennial but summer Supervised Ministry. Almost thirty of Columbia's students have already been placed and others are in the process. A summer of supervised ministry is required of all Columbia students as part of their seminary training. The 10-week period allows the student to participate in all phases of ministry in the local church, giving most students the first opportunity to serve in a live parish situation.

(Alumni Council, from Page 1)

Current Officers

President
William A. Adams
Atlanta, Ga. '56

Vice-President
Robert Lawrence
Greenville, S.C. '52

Secretary-Treasurer
M. McCoy Franklin
Auburn, Al. '64

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William M. Schotanus
Atlanta, Ga. '53

Vice-President
John L. Newton
Atlanta, Ga. '47

Secretary-Treasurer
William E. Hammond
Atlanta, Ga. '52

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Everett H. Phillips
Bay Minette, Al. '41

John Leith
Richmond, Va. '43

Charles Moffatt
Gallatin, Tn. '51

Edward L. Hopper
Lexington, Ky. '52

C. Phil Esty
Jackson, Ms. '53

Roy W. Hicks
Gerald, Mo. '53

Archie Davis
Hollywood, Fl. '54

Murdoch Calhoun
Oklahoma City, Ok. '54

Richard Dodds
Pine Bluff, Ark. '54

James D. Newsome, Jr.
Paducah, Ky. '55

C. J. Hammet
Columbia, S. C. '57

P. C. Enniss, Jr.
Tallahassee, Fl. '58

George Dana Waters
Selma, Al. '58

Eugene B. Norris
Chattanooga, Tn. '59

Roland Perdue
Austin, Texas '59

Ben D. Dunagan
Meridian, Ms. '60

Randolph Kowalski
Greenville, S. C. '60

Robert Malsbary
Metairie, La. '60

James L. Peacock
Birmingham, Al. '63

William V. Arnold
Louisville, Ky. '66

James R. Wilburn
Jackson, Ms. '66

John Jey Deifell
Gaithersburg, Md. '66

(Endowment, from Page 1)

members and assisted by the Development Office now exceed $85,000, and there are still some areas which have not completed their efforts. Funds have been put into the endowment account to replace the $41,000 borrowed from it in 1973-74, and salary increases have been given to faculty and staff to allow a cost-of-living adjustment in the area of 5%. The remaining unknown in the financial equation for this fiscal year is what the total amount received from the Synods will be by June 30. There still is the need for friends of the Seminary to plan to include Columbia in their giving programs before July to ensure a balance of income and expenditures in order to maintain and strengthen the enterprise of theological education at Columbia Seminary. Gifts may be sent to Dr. J. Davison Philips at the Seminary.

J. Hunter Coleman
Jacksonville, Fl. '68

H. Harrison Morgan
Albany, Ga. '68

R. Leon Carroll
Charleston, W. Va. '68

E. Joyce Rimes
Atlanta, Ga. '73

Joyce C. Tucker
Marietta, Ga. '75

W. Woodland Johnson
Highlands, N. C. '76

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